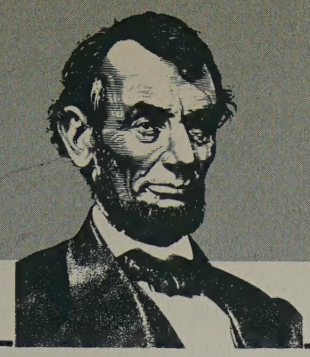


Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1458 FORT WAYNE, INDIANA August, 1959

MOST TIMELY LINCOLN EDITORIAL—FEBRUARY 12, 1959

During the Lincoln Sesquicentennial celebration of February 12, 1959 a great many editorials on Abraham Lincoln appeared in daily newspapers. The Foundation acquired about one hundred and fifty newspapers that contained Lincoln editorials, however, quite a few were syndicated and a total of approximately one hundred different topics were compiled.

These were carefully read by the Foundation personnel. Some excellent editorials were eliminated because of their length, and others were not considered because of their purely local character. After considerable study sixteen were selected and submitted to the Foundation committee of eight Lincoln authorities, with the request that they determine the best one.

The point system was used; first place was to receive 5 points, second place 3 points and third place 1 point. Once the ballots were tabulated it was found that the editorial **"Lincoln, Man and Miracle"** by Karl B. Pauly which appeared in the *Ohio State Journal* of Columbus, Ohio, won 9 points and first place. Second place went to the editorial titled "What Can Today's Americans Learn From Abraham Lincoln?" which appeared in the San Diego *Evening Tribune* of San Diego, California.

The remaining fourteen editorials submitted to the committee were taken from the following newspapers:

1. *The Miami Herald*, Miami, Fla.
2. *Journal-Gazette*, Fort Wayne, Ind.
3. *Buffalo Courier Express*, Buffalo, N. Y.
4. *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland, California
5. *The Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Ky.
6. *New York* Herald-Tribune, New York, N. Y.
7. *Democrat & Chronicle*, Rochester, N. Y.
8. *Washington Star*, Washington, D. C.
9. *Cleveland News*, Cleveland, Ohio
10. *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, St. Louis, Mo.
11. *Buffalo Evening News*, Buffalo, N. Y.
12. *Chicago Daily News*, Chicago, Ill.
13. *The Pittsburgh Press*, Pittsburgh, Pa.
14. *Detroit News*, Detroit, Mich.

As second place went to Jack Tucker's editorial, **"What Can Today's Americans Learn From Abraham Lincoln?"** it too is republished by permission of the San Diego *Evening Tribune*.

"In the testing time of his greatness, Abraham Lincoln was confronted with the agonizing problem of a nation divided — half slave and half free.

"Today, on the 150th anniversary of the birth of the 16th President, a united America is confronted with a world divided — half slave and half free.

"The problems are

(Continued to page 4)

Lincoln, Man and Miracle

HE WAS A HOMELY, awkward man, sometimes called uncouth.

He had less than a year's schooling.

He had few, if any, bosom friends.

He served one undistinguished term in Washington as a Congressman.

He was defeated when he ran for U.S. senator.

He was utterly devoid of what today we would call political glamor.

Tragedy stalked his private life.

Two years after his defeat for senator, he emerged, from a "smoke-filled room," the Republican nominee for President of the United States.

He was elected by the smallest percentage of popular vote of any of our Presidents.

Between his election and his inauguration, seven states seceded from the Federal Union, to be followed shortly by four others.

He wielded virtually dictatorial powers during the Civil War, for which he was reviled and caricatured as no other President ever has been.

He was killed by an assassin.

He became the most beloved of our Presidents and is ranked with Washington as the greatest of them all.

There is scarcely a part of the globe where pleas for justice and equality of men have not been made in his name.

Such a man was and is Abraham Lincoln.

TODAY, throughout the world, the 150th anniversary of his birth in a backwoods log cabin is being commemorated.

Long ago monuments were erected to him across our land, in England, in the little mountain republic of San Marino, in Asia, in Africa, in almost every land. His Gettysburg Address is graven on a tablet in Westminster Abbey, the coronation seat of English kings and queens who could not command the language as well as he, in his plain, humble way.

No spot in Washington is visited more reverently than his memorial on the banks of the Potomac, a stone's throw from the river that once divided our nation.

Why has all this come to pass?

Hundreds of men and women have written books about him. Scarcely a month goes by that there is not another Lincoln book, exploring his life, following his steps from hour to hour throughout his 56 years and two months of life. The undercurrent of them all is a search for *the why and how* of this great man.

There is, of course, no pat answer.

He was unique, yet in a wholly unspectacular way. The times helped make him. There was an element of political luck in his career of which scores of other great men would have asked only a mild portion in their times.

He was equal to his hour. He saved the Union.

It was as if Providence took a hand, marked the man and exalted him that our nation might be preserved and exalted.

HE WAS a humble man.

He once said, *"I never had a policy. I have simply tried to do what seemed best each day, as each day came."*

He was a man without malice.

He was a man of charity.

He was patient and compassionate.

Yet he stood like a rock when the storms of national life and personal sorrow beat around him.

As that rock he will stand as long as America lives.

Let us so live as to deserve him.

The world has need that we do.

The editorial "Lincoln, Man and Miracle" is published with the permission of the Ohio State Journal of Columbus, Ohio.

UNITED STATES POSTAL CARDS PICTURING ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Postal cards were first issued, under the act of June 8, 1872, by the United States Post Office Department on May 1, 1873. Up to date six different postal cards depict Abraham Lincoln, however, they appear in many shades of color, paper stock, variations and surcharges.

Issue of 1911

UX23-(S32)
Library or Index card.

1-cent Lincoln (library card intended primarily for index purposes and social correspondence). (solid background). Red on cream. P.O.D. designation: No. 5 card. Size 5 x 3 inches; 127 x 76 mm. Scott's No. UX23. First day of issue: January 21, 1911. Quantity issued: 15,407,500. Printed in sheets of 18 by the Public Printer. The size of the sheet is not certain as records are not available. The die and plates were prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The stamp depicts a profile head of Abraham Lincoln looking to the left, after a portrait furnished by L. G. Muller.* The portrait was engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin. The solid background is surrounded with an eliptical border bearing in capital letters the words "U. S. Postal Card," this border resting upon a base containing the denomination "1 cent." In a curved ribbon above the denomination appears the name "Lincoln." A spray of laurel extends from the base two-thirds up and outside of the border, on either side of the stamp. The frame, lettering and numerals were engraved by Edward M. Hall. To the left of the stamp appears in a horizontal line of Gothic capitals the inscription, "This side of card is for address only" within a frame of plain lines.

	Full mint
S32—Red on cream—estimated value	$ .40
32a—Rose on cream—estimated value	.40
32b—Double impression—estimated value	50.00

*In 1923 the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company acquired the Pickett bas relief of Lincoln from L. G. Muller who acquired it in 1893. In 1908 Muller secured a copyright on the plaque and had a metal plate welded on the reverse side of the bronze bearing this inscription: "Copyrighted L. G. Muller 1908." After securing the copyright Muller had replicas of the Pickett study made in metal. He also made available lithographic reproductions of the head.

In 1909 Muller, then a resident of Chicago, Illinois, submitted a picture of the Pickett plaque as a suitable design to be used on the new postal card. There were twenty other contestants. On December 11, 1909, Muller received a letter from A. M. Travis, Third Assistant Postmaster General, stating that his portrait of the plaque would probably be used on the new postal card.

For further information concerning "Pickett's Profile of Lincoln" see *Lincoln Lore* Number 1363, May 23, 1955.

Issue of 1913

Library or Index card.
UX26-(S36)

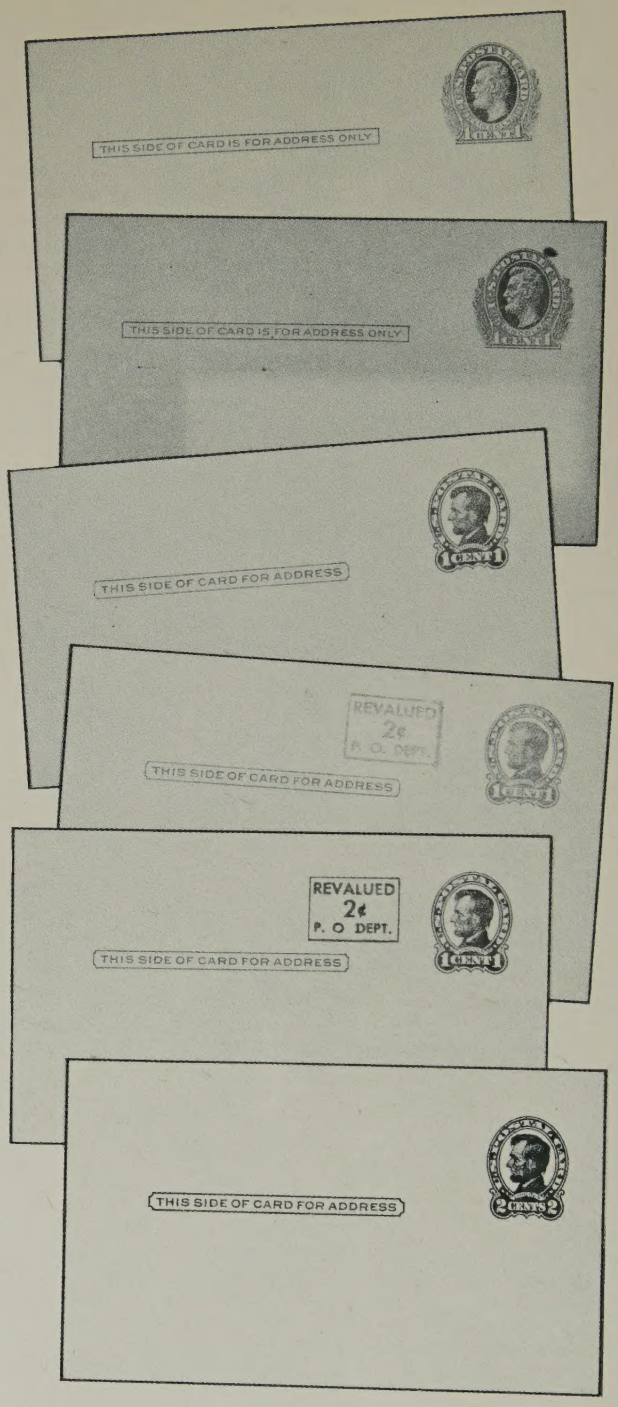
1-cent Lincoln (solid background). Green on cream. P.O.D. designation: No. 5 card. Size: 5 x 3 inches; 127 x 76 mm. Scott's No. UX26. First day of issue: July 29, 1913. Same design as UX23. Quantity issued: Estimated 18 million. Printed in sheets of 18 by the Public Printer from the plates of S32 Issue of 1911. The size of the sheet is not certain as records are not available. The color was changed to green to conform to U. P. U. color regulations.

	Full mint
S36—Green on cream—estimated value	$ .40
36a—Pale green on cream—estimated value	.40

Issue of 1917

Library card.
UX28-(S40)

1-cent Lincoln. Green on cream. P. O. D. designation: No. 5 card. Size: 5 x 3 inches; 127 x 76 mm. First day of issue: March 14, 1917. Scott's No. UX28. Quantity issued: Estimated over 2 billion. Card remained in use from date of issue until December 31, 1951. Printed on flat bed presses by the Public Printer. First printings were in sheets of 18 (2 x 9) from steel plates. About 1936 new presses were installed and chrome-faced electrotype plates were prepared. The sheets were then printed 40 or 80 on, cut to 20 on or singles before sale.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THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY
THIS SIDE OF CARD FOR ADDRESS
REVALUED
2¢
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THIS SIDE OF CARD FOR ADDRESS
REVALUED
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THIS SIDE OF CARD FOR ADDRESS

Lincoln postal cards (top to bottom) 1911-UX23-(S32), 1913-UX26-(S36), 1917-UX28-(S40), 1952-UX40-(S58), 1952-UX42-(S59) and 1952-UX43-(S60).

Still later, the sheet size was changed to 44 or 88 on to avoid paper waste, and we find the steel plates and electrotypes used side by side in the same press in order to make up the larger sheets. Sheets of 20 and singles were cut from the larger sheets. Steel plate impressions are considerably sharper. The stamp depicts a profile portrait of Abraham Lincoln looking to the left, with no background. The general design was simplified, "With the result that the cards . . . were clear and sharp, and

without much of the fussy detail which characterized the issues of 1911 and 1913." The portrait was taken from a profile photograph of Lincoln made at Washington, D. C., in 1864 by Mathew B. Brady. The portrait was engraved by M. W. Baldwin. Lettering, frame and numerals were engraved by E. M. Hall. An eliptical border carries in capital letters the words "U. S. Postal Card," this border resting upon a base containing the denomination "1 cent 1". In a curved ribbon above the denomination appears the name "Lincoln." To the left of the stamp in a horizontal line of Gothic capitals is the inscription, "This side of card for address" within a frame of plain lines having concave corners. There appears to be many plate varieties.

	Full mint
S40—Green on cream—estimated value	$ .05
40a—Light green on cream—estimated value	.05
40b—Dark green on cream—estimated value	.05
40c—Yellow green on cream—estimated value	.05
40d—Yellow green on buff—estimated value	.05
40e—Green on canary—estimated value	.50
40f—Double impression—estimated value	50.00

There are three constant plate varieties which are classified by George M. Martin, Editor *United States Postal Card Catalogue* published in 1955 by the United Postal Stationery Society, Van Dahl Publications, Inc., Albany, Oregon:

Type 1—(From original steel plates) Clear impression

Type 2—(Second electrotype) (a) Front locks of hair form a loop, (b) Middle frame point below EN (Cent) sharp pointed.

Type 3—(First electrotype) (a) Winged collar, (b) Dot in p (postal), (c) Inner frame line on right irregular.

Series of 1952

UX40-(S58)
Green Surcharge, Tickometer.

2-cent on 1-cent Lincoln (Library card), horizontal surcharge to left of stamp (normal). P.O.D. designation: No. 5 card, revalued. Scott's No. UX40. Stamp design same as UX28. First day of issue: January 1, 1952. Quantity issued: 7,015,250. Surcharged at 17 post offices by Pitney-Bowes Tickometers. The surcharge is also known on all three of the major plate types of S40. There are a great many worn and damaged die varieties revealing broken frames, damaged letters or missing letters and missing periods. The only reported freak of the Lincoln card is one with normal surcharge on front and on back (San Francisco). Oddity: Separation papers sometimes received surcharge. Such cannot be classified as a card.

	Full mint
S58—2¢ on 1¢, green on buff, normal surcharge—estimated value	$ .10
58a—Green on dark buff, normal surcharge—estimated value	.10
58b—Green on canary, normal surcharge—estimated value	.25
58c—Inverted surcharge, lower left—estimated value	7.50
58d—Vertical surcharge to left of stamp reading down—(Nashville) estimated value	1.00

Series of 1952

UX-(S59)
Dark Green Surcharge, Press Printed.

2-cent on 1-cent Lincoln (Library card) horizontal surcharge to left of stamp. P.O.D. designation: No. 5 card, revalued. Scott's No. UX42. Stamp design same as UX28. First day of issue: Not known. Quantity issued: 3,749,880. Surcharge in full sheets by printing press by the Public Printer at Washington, D. C., Chicago, Ill., New York, N. Y. and San Francisco, Calif. Surcharge was applied by five strips of nickeled electrotype, four on. The surcharge is found in all three of the major plate types of S40. Oddity: Each case of full sheets has manila paper separating sheets between each 100 sheets. In several instances, these separating sheets received the surcharge. These sheets were not removed and reached the hands of full case purchasers. The sheets are interesting, but are not cards.

	Full mint
S59—2¢ on 1¢—Dark green surcharge—estimated value	$ .25
59a—"D" of Dept. with serifs—estimated value	.50

Issue of 1952
Library or Index Card.
UX43-(S60)

2-cent Lincoln. Carmine on buff. P.O.D. designation: No. 5 card. Scott's No. UX43. Stamp design same as UX28 except for numerals and "cents." Size: 5 x 3 inches, 127 x 76 mm. First day of issue: July 31, 1952. Quantity issued: Current. Printed by the Public Printer, Washington, D. C. on flat bed presses in sheets of 44, from plates prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing in 1918. The sheets of 44 are cut into pages of 20 before sale. The four extra cards are cut into singles. The stamp was designed by Clair A. Hutson and the die engraved by M. W. Baldwin (portrait) and E. M. Hall (lettering, numerals and frame). The die was originally prepared for a 2-cent Lincoln card to be issued for the war time of 1918, but due to the small demand it was never placed in use. Thus the 2¢ Lincoln card of 1952 occupies a most unique position among United States postal cards.

	Full mint
S60—Carmine on buff—estimated value	$ .04

Editor's note: The technical information on Lincoln postal cards incorporated into this article is from the *United States Postal Card Catalogue* of which George M. Martin is editor. This 94 page work was published by the United Postal Stationery Society, Van Dahl Publications, Albany, Oregon, in 1955. Price $2.50. Other sources include *A Description of United States Postage Stamps and Postal Cards*, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., 1927 and *Report of The Third Assistant Postmaster-General To The Postmaster-General For The Year Ended June 30, 1910*, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1910.

LINCOLN'S CABINET—A PREDICTION

The editors of the *Baltimore Sun* in their issue of August 17, 1860 attempted to name the members of the Lincoln cabinet "in case of his election." The score of this prediction adds up to one correct guess out of seven. The article follows: "We hear it rumored in political circles here, as coming from reliable republican sources, that the following is to be the composition of Mr. Lincoln's cabinet, in case of his election: William H. Seward, Secretary of State; Henry Winter Davis; Attorney General; John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury; Cassius M. Clay, Secretary of the Interior; Ben F. Wade, Secretary of the Navy; John Hickman, Secretary of War; Schuyler Colfax, Postmaster General."

LINCOLN'S INAUGURATION

"A letter from Washington says: 'The obstructions to Mr. Lincoln's advent into Washington may be avoided by his taking the oath of office in New York or Philadelphia, or even in Springfield'; but here a doubt has arisen in the minds of some astute gentlemen. Suppose the electorial votes are never counted according to constitutional requirement—that is, in joint convention of both Houses. This is no chimera, for it is expected that fifteen Southern States will be out of the confederacy by the 1st of February. The votes are to be counted on the first Monday in that month. Fifteen States out, thirty senatorial votes are gone; and if the Northern Democratic Senators go with them, such as Gen. Lane of Oregon, Messrs. Gwin and Latham of California, Douglas of Illinois, Bright and Fitch of Indiana, Pugh of Ohio, Rice of Minnesota, and Thompson of New Jersey, there will be but twenty-seven Senators left, or seven short of a quorum, and you may be assured the vice president (Breckinridge) will never give his consent to have the votes counted if a quorum of the Senate be not present."

Richmond Inquirer
January 4, 1861

LINCOLN'S HAND

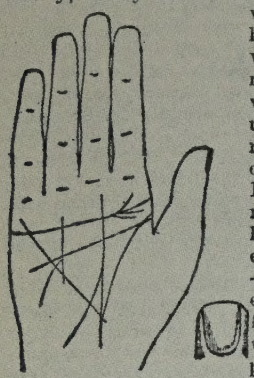
(From an unidentified newspaper clipping)

Editor's note: *Lincoln Lores* numbers 1433 and 1441 carried articles concerning astrological predictions in relation to Lincoln's presidential campaign of 1860 and his assassination. These predictions were made before Lincoln's first election and his assassination. This article deals with palmistry—the art or practice of telling fortunes or of judging of character, aptitudes etc., by a study of the palm of the hand. In this case the palmist is unknown and his character analysis was made after Lincoln's death. Likewise the identity of the newspaper and its date are unknown. This information is presented as an oddity and is not intended to be taken seriously.

LINCOLN'S HAND,

And What It Revealed to the Palmist—Tenderness and Fidelity.

Abraham Lincoln had a very long and sinewy, firmly elastic hand. The fingers were especially long, as compared with the palm, and much of this length was due to the unusual length of the nail. The skin was delicate in texture. His thumb was the most remarkable I have seen. It was every way a model—well formed, elastic, and perfectly proportioned with its several parts—still much longer than I have ever seen on the same sized hand. The nails were models of beauty, of which any lady might be proud as to texture, color and shape. The mounts of Venus, Mercury, Mars and Jupiter were very full in the order named, and all of them well marked. This is every way a wonderful hand, displaying a keen, clear, penetrating power of rapidly comprehending whatever is presented; and with this a delicacy and intensity of impressionability that feels every shade of sentiment or purpose in the one who comes into the presence of the man. He had an intensity of affection as broad and deep as a refined and tender woman. Caution and justice were such preponderating qualities, as shown in his long and non-tapering fingers, square ends, and long, beautiful nails, that he rarely gave his decision until it was absolutely necessary. The long hand and long fingers, with the sinewy and enduring makeup, typed the man who attended carefully to detail, as exhibited in the fact of his doing much of his own writing and investigating, which is usually turned over to a subordinate. Tenderness, fidelity, helpfulness and an unyielding will, which nothing could break or bend, with a wonderful intuitive ability to see and feel men and things, which amounted to almost inspirational clairvoyance, were this great man's characteristics.



LINCOLN'S HAND.

BIXBY AND SIXBEY

Because Abraham Lincoln wrote a beautiful letter of sympathy on November 21, 1864 to a Boston widow who was believed to have lost five sons (later investigations have revealed that only two sons were killed) on Civil War battlefields, the name of Lydia Bixby is well known to practically all students of Civil War history and classical American literature.

But fame did not immortalize the name of Sally Sixbey who lost three sons on the field of battle. In a quiet old graveyard in Stratford, Herkimer County, New York, there is a monument that marks the grave of the Sixbey family. At the top of the monument is the following inscription:

Colonel John Sixbey
Died 1874, Aged 65 years

Sally Sixbey, his wife
Died 1892, Aged 83 years

Underneath the broader part of the monument are inscribed the names of the three Sixbey sons who were killed on Civil War battlefields:

Jerome, killed at the storming of Petersburg, Va., 1864. Aged 17 years.
Nicholas, killed at the battle of Fair Oaks, Va., 1862. Aged 25 years.
John, Jr., killed at the battle of Malvern Hill, 1862. Aged 29 years.

Nicholas and Jerome were of the 34th Regiment, Co., K., N. Y. V. John, Jr., was of the 121st Regiment, N. Y. V.

What a coincidence "that so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom" would be borne by two mothers whose names were so similar.

Herkimer County News, Little Falls, N. Y., Tuesday, September 22, 1931. (Property of Mr. & Mrs. George C. Bond of Fort Wayne, Indiana)

MOST TIMELY EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

not the same, to be sure.

"But the element of crisis calls for much the same steadfastness that marked Lincoln.

"The peril from without needs to be seen with the same unwavering clarity with which he saw the internal crisis from 1854 onward in his rise to national leadership.

"The menace needs to be met with the same unflinching resolve.

"What can Americans today learn from Abraham Lincoln?

"We can strive, however imperfectly, for his ability to pierce to the heart of a complex problem without being swayed by expediency.

"Our world is vastly more complex today . . . the skeins of men's ambitions and affairs more subtly tangled . . . right and wrong seemingly, but not basically, inextricably twined.

"Our hope is a Lincolnesque faculty to cut to the heart of the problem, find its essential truth, and sustain it on this basis.

"This ability, this sagacity, in Lincoln was fortified by another quality: His magnanimity.

"His eyes, as they regarded the people of the South, were never hooded by the opaque lids of bitterness and revenge.

"This leads us logically into another facet of Lincoln's character that was deeper, perhaps, than his well-credited wisdom and his demonstrated magnanimity.

"This was the side of him that found expression in his passionate faith in the strength and virtue of the plain people.

"The stock from which he sprang and grew tall gave Lincoln an inborn and unfailing feeling for the popular government that he was to lead through its travail.

"Lincoln looms larger with the passage of time, as distance seems to lift a peak from foothills and plateaus.

"The roughness of his early life, opening in a dirt-floored, one-room cabin near Hodgenville, Ky., on Feb. 12, 1809, his early defeats and disappointments, the dogged climb to prominence—these are all a part of the Lincoln legend which will not be forgotten.

"All of us can take heart from this struggle.

"But it is above these phases of Lincoln's life that we can look for the crystallized facet at the top of the peak for a shining reflection that may be helpful in guiding Americans today.

"What flashes back?

"The clear gleam of an intense patriotism, tested, and found whole and true."

Editors Note: An appropriate certificate will be presented to the editorial writers who won first and second place in this contest.